Final Report of Child Fatality or Near Fatality

Date Prepared: 8/7/14

Prepared by: Amber E. Gillum, Acting State Director

South Carolina Department of Social Services

P.O. Box 1520

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

DOB: 3/4/12 Race: W Gender: M

Type of Report: X Fatality Near Fatality

Date of Fatality or Near Fatality: 3/4/12

Cause and Circumstances of the Child Fatality or Near Fatality

Date Report Accepted for Investigation: 3/5/12

Summary of Allegations: On 3/5/12, SCDSS received a report indicating the mother gave birth to a still born baby boy on 3/4/12 at a local hospital. The reporter stated the mother tested positive for cocaine. The reporter alleged the mother was depressed, had limited pre-natal care, and was involved with a treatment facility.

Date Investigation Initiated: 3/5/12

Case Decision: The case was indicated for physical abuse by the mother.

Date of Case Decision: 4/19/12

Basis for Case Decision: SCDSS indicated the case because the mother tested positive for an

illegal substance at the birth of the deceased child.

The Department's Response After the Fatality or Near Fatality

The deceased child's sibling was 15 years old and resided with his father. He would have occasional visits with his mother.

SCDSS provided a referral to substance abuse treatment services for the mother and random drug screenings briefly until the mother entered an inpatient treatment facility.

The mother went into long-term treatment for substance abuse. The case closed because the mother had no other children in her care. The case closed on 4/19/12.

<u>Previous Child Abuse or Neglect Investigations that are Pertinent to the Child Fatality or Near Fatality.</u> (Note: State law prohibits disclosure of records or information in unfounded cases.)

The family had no previous child protective services history.